

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPIC-03 L-02 EB-04 AID-05 DRC-01 RSC-01

/024 W

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R 211425Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6479

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EINV, NI

SUBJECT: OPIC AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 230075

1. RECORD WILL SHOW THAT EMBASSY HAS MADE EVERY EFFORT KEEP DEPARTMENT AND OPIC UP TO DATE RE THIS MOST VEXATIOUS OF OUR CURRENT TACTICAL PROBLEMS. WE SHARE THE FRUSTRATION REFLECTED IN REFTEL BUT, ON THE BASIS NUMEROUS RECENT CONTACTS, CAN ONLY REPEAT THAT WE PERCEIVE NO REPEAT NO SUBSTANTIVE REASON FOR FAILURE FMG INITIATE EXCHANGE NOTES, INDEED, AS RECENTLY AS OCTOBER 18 CIROMA, FINALLY EMERGING FROM LONG SERIES OF ABSENCES, TOLD ME THAT HE THOUGHT NOTE HAD BEEN EXCHANGED, WHICH REFLECTS BOTH THE LOOSENESS OF THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS AND AT THE SAME TIME THE CONFIDENCE OF A KEY OFFICIAL THAT THERE IS NO OPPOSITION TO CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT.

2. FACT IS THAT SINCE JULY SIGNING, THERE HAS BEEN A BUREAUCRATIC SQUABBLE AMONG EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, INDUSTRIES, AND JUSTICE OFFICIALS AS TO WHETHER APPROVAL FOR NOTE EXCHANGE MUST BE SOUGHT FROM FEC. AT LEAST ONE OFFICIAL FROM EACH OF THESE MINISTRIES HAS TOLD ME WITHIN PAST WEEK THAT IMPASSE HAS BEEN OVERCOME BY MEA AND INDUSTRIES AGREEING TO JUSTICE INSISTENCE RETURN TO FEC, AND EACH BELIEVES THAT NO MORE THAN A PRO FORMA EXERCISE IS INVOLVED. ON BASIS OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US, WE BELIEVE THIS IS AN ACCURATE ASSESSMENT.

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3. TO MAKE DOUBLY CERTAIN, WITHIN PAST FORTNIGHT I HAVE TOLD THREE CONCERNED OFFICIALS, EVEN TO THE POINT OF EXAGGERATION, THAT NUMEROUS INQUIRIES ARE BEING MADE ABOUT OPIC BY PROSPECTIVE US INVESTORS. CIROMA CONFIRMS THAT HE TOO HAS RECIEVED SOME INQUIRIES. AND WE ALL HAVE AGREED THAT THERE IS NO REASON CONTINUE FIDDLING AROUND WITH A NOTE CONCERNING AN AGREEMENT ALREADY SIGNED. THE NIGERIANS SAY THAT WE CAN EXPECT EARLY ACTION.

4. WE HAVE ALL LIVED WITH THIS PROBLEM TOOLONG TO BE CERTAIN ABOUT ANY DEVELOPMENT, BUT INsofar AS THE LOCAL SCENE WILL PERMIT, WE ARE OPTIMISTIC. AT LEAST WE DETECT NO SIGNS THAT THE DELAY REPRESENTS "QUALITATIVE CHANGE" FEARED REFTEL. REINHARDT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LAGOS09709  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D740299-0773  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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